

**Ryburn Golf Club**

**Safeguarding Children and Young People – A Short Guide for Club Members**

Ryburn Golf Club is committed to ensure that the sport of golf is one within which children and young people involved can thrive and flourish in a safe environment and that all children, young people and adults at risk have a fun, safe and positive experience when playing golf.

Ryburn Golf Clubis an affiliated member of England Golf and follows the England Golf Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy and procedures.

You might be thinking “**What has safeguarding got to do with me?”**

Government guidance makes it clear that ‘Safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility’.

Anyone who has a negative experience of sport at a young age is less likely to become a regular long-term participant. It’s important for the future of your club and the sport as a whole that children and young people have an enjoyable experience.

**All club members have a part to play in making that happen.**

All adults should contribute to the club meeting its overall duty of care, be aware of our club’s safeguarding policy, and know what to do if they are concerned about a young person.

Ryburn Golf Club asks our members to

**Familiarise yourself with**

1. **Ryburn GC Safeguarding Policy.**

*The full copy of Ryburn GC Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy is available on our website and on the Club V1 app (under Documents)*

1. **Ryburn Golf Club Codes of Conduct**

*All members are expected to read, and abide by, Ryburn’s Code of Conduct. For example - Adults should always be aware that age related differences exist and conduct themselves in a manner that both recognises this and prioritises the welfare of children and young people.*

1. **Anti-Bullying Policy**

Ryburn GC believe that every effort must be made to eradicate bullying in all its forms. The Club will not tolerate bullying in any of its forms during club matches, competitions, coaching or at any other time while at the club. All adults should consider their attitude and behaviours towards juniors.

1. **Changing Room Policy**

The changing rooms are used by all members & visitors. Juniors will only be supervised if needed at club organised events. Parents will be made aware that adults use the changing rooms throughout the day for changing & showering. Where a parent/carer does not consent to their child accessing the changing rooms, it is their responsibility to either supervise the child while in the changing rooms or ensure that they do not use them.

1. **Photography, Videoing and the use of Social Media Policies**

Think very carefully before contacting a young person via mobile phone, e-mail or social media. Do not accept children as contacts on social networking sites.

In general stick to group communications, copy the communication to a parent and only communicate about organisational matters.

A junior may not be a member of any group communication (such as a What’s App group) unless their parent/carer is also a member. Juniors should only be members of groups which are focussed on golf, not groups who share inappropriate memes, jokes, photos and videos

**What should I do if I’m concerned about a child or young person?**

A concern may involve the behaviours of an adult towards a child at the club, or something that has happened to the child outside the club.

Children and young people may confide in adults they trust, in a place where they feel comfortable.

An allegation may range from verbal bullying, to inappropriate contact online, to neglect or emotional abuse, to physical or sexual abuse.

If you are concerned about a child, it is not your responsibility to investigate further, but it is your responsibility to act on your concerns and share them.

Pass the information to the club’s Welfare Officers, Lizzie Haigh or Nick Copley, who will follow the club’s Safeguarding procedures.

Name: Lizzie Haigh

Email Address: lizziehaigh@icloud.com

Telephone Number: 07740643040

Name: Nick Copley

Email Address: nickcopley419@yahoo.com

Telephone Number: 07763 506833

**If you believe the child is at immediate risk of harm, please call the Police immediately on 999 – do not wait to speak to a Welfare Officer first.**

Other useful contacts:

NSPCC 24-hour helpline Tel: 0808 800 5000

England Golf Lead Safeguarding Officer 01526 351824